



UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Summary March 14, 2011

Meeting called to order and meeting approved

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Joel Cockrell. The February 28th meeting summary was approved.

Introductions

Introductions of members and guests were made around the room.

Update from Upcounty Regional Services Center Staff

Catherine Matthews, Director, updated the Board on the following:

- The public is invited to attend one of the briefings to discuss the County Executive's Fiscal Year 2012 recommended operating budget for the Department of Recreation. Recreation Director Gabriel Albornoz will brief residents and answer questions about the department's portion of the recommended budget. The meetings will take place as part of the recreation area advisory board meetings. The meeting in the Upcounty area will be on Wednesday, March 16 -- Germantown Community Center, 18905 Kingsview Road, Germantown
- On Tuesday, March 15, the County Executive will announce his recommended \$4.35 billion operating budget that would close a \$300 million gap for fiscal year FY 12.
- The Public Technology Institute honored Montgomery County's Department of Technology Services (DTS) with two Technology Solutions and Innovations awards.
- Montgomery County's MC311 online and telephone information system has received a Technology Solutions Award for Telecommunications & Information Technology from the Public Technology Institute.
- County Executive Ike Leggett has proposed a new legislation that would place a five-cent charge on each paper or plastic carryout bag provided by retail establishments in the County to customers at the point of sale, pickup or delivery. Retailers would receive a one-cent rebate on each plastic bag to help cover administrative costs. The new law would take effect January 1, 2012.
- The Housing Initiative Partnership (HIP) office has moved to a larger office (Suite 1500) at the Upcounty Center Regional Services Center. HIP counselors assist with housing and especially foreclosure issues.

Clarksburg Infrastructure Presentation: Jennifer Russel, Rodgers Consulting, Inc.

Jennifer Russel, Director of Planning / Principal, Rodgers Consulting, Inc, presented on the progress of the Clarksburg Infrastructure Working Group. Clarksburg Civic Association President Barry Fantle joined her in the presentation. The Working Group is charged with identifying planned infrastructure that

is of priority to the Clarksburg community and recommendations for financing the construction of the infrastructure.

Update from the County Council

Councilmember Marc Elrich shared the following highlights:

- The legislation ZTA 10-15 re Airstrips in the Agriculture Reserves has passed. The Council's Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee (PHED) voted two to one to support the zoning text amendment to limit airstrips in the Agricultural Reserve and to require that they be a minimum of 1,000 feet from a property line and not be paved.
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/pdf/zta/2011/20110308_17-03.pdf
- The County Executive has proposed grocery bag tax legislation, hoping to encourage consumers to be more earth-friendly and use reusable bags.
- The budget cuts this year will be very painful.
- The Roadside Solicitation legislation/proposal was withdrawn from consideration in Annapolis.

Dale Tibbitts, Councilmember Elrich's office, added the following highlights:

- The Budget hearings at the Council will be held on April 5, 6, and 7.
- The various committees will start meeting the week of April 11 to consider the budget.
- The final budget will be approved on or about May 23.

Report from the Chairperson

- The Land Use and Quality of Life Committees will have Ed Clark representing the community group, "Community Partners for Public Safety" at their next joint meeting on March 21st. After that discussion, the committees will review their budget priorities in preparation for delivering testimony at the Council hearing.
- The Board will have representatives from Montgomery College and Holy Cross Hospital at the next full board meeting on April 11. They will update the Board on progress made thus far to build the Biosciences Education Center and the new hospital that will be built on the Germantown campus.
- On April 18, the Land Use and Quality of Life Committees will meet separately. The Land Use Committee will have a discussion on proposed legislation affecting development and septic systems, and the Quality of Life Committee will serve as a focus group for the new Healthy Montgomery Initiative that will explore how Montgomery County residents define a "healthy community."

Committee and Liaison Reports

Land Use and Preservation Committee – No report.

Quality of Life Committee – No report.

Airpark Liaison Committee – No report.

Upcounty Regional Recreation Advisory Board Liaison - No report.

Dickerson Facilities Implementation Group (DFIG) – No report.

Speed Cameras Advisory Committee– No report.

Shady Grove Implementation Advisory Committee (SGIAG) – No report.

Permitting Services Advisory Committee –No report

Northern Region Recreation Advisory Board – No report

Smart Growth Initiative Implementation Group –No report

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Members present: Joel Cockrell, Bob Owolabi, Juan Cardenas, Andres Aviles, Cherian Eapen, Natalia Farrar, Jim King, Matthew Leakan, Kevin Linck, Doug Noble, Pat Seals, Bob Thompson, and Jim Wallace

Other Guests: Councilmember Marc Elrich, Dale Tibbitts (Councilmember Elrich's office), Katherine Holt (MNCPPC), Sandy Holloway (PTA President, Great Seneca Creek Elementary School)

Staff present: Catherine Matthews and Andrea Bush